My Muslim friend believed that the communal problem would be solved by class organisations, however much the phrase may frighten.[1] Hindus and Muslims in unions will find more in common than with the class which exploits them. It is worth remembering that the representatives of the Muslims at the Round Table Conference had little or no contact with the Muslim masses and had not been chosen by them. English business interests are encouraging Muslim enterprise. They are behind the Muslim Chamber of Commerce in Bengal, and in that province Europeans get five times the representation that they deserve. These innumerable sectional interests militate against all progressive and modern developments. Imperialism has demanded for its operation a backward country, and thus is bound to hamper or actively to prevent progressive tendencies.

The non-Congress ministries have been forced by pressure from the example of other provinces to embark on a certain degree of ameliorative legislation. Recently the Premier of Bengal has threatened that the Ministry will resign if the Governor refuses to accept certain agrarian legislation on the ground that it will interfere with the permanent settlement, but in these provinces one also finds far less return to civil liberties than in the Congress provinces. In the Punjab Muslims as well as Hindus have been jailed and political prisoners have not been released, and the situation in Bengal has been greatly occupying Mr. Gandhi.

Nehru has been criticised because he has said that politics should be purged of religion, but this must happen* When a Christian remarked recently that* he was an Indian first and a Christian afterwards, I do not think that he meant that his religion was a mere adjunct to his national politics,

[1] Cf. Introduction, p. 4.